

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 5-6, 10-11, 14-15, 19-20, 27-36 will be pending in the application.

Claims 1, 10 & 19 are independent claims.

Claims 11-18 are rejected under 35 USC §112 second paragraph. Claims 10 & 11 have been amended to correct antecedent basis. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 USC §112 second paragraph is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-27 are rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Richarte, "Four different tricks to bypass StackShield and StackGuard protection.

The Applicants respectfully disagree, however in the interest of prosecutorial efficiency independent claims 1, 10 & 19 have been amended to more clearly state the present invention. Claims 5, 6, 14, 15 & 23 have been amended for consistency with amended claims 1, 10 & 19.

In contrast to Richarte the Applicants' invention claims comparing the target address with a reference list of valid target addresses; and if the target address is found on the reference list of valid target addresses then executing the target.

Richarte describes range checking of an address [2.3.3] but does not teach or suggest comparing the target address with a reference list of valid target addresses. Richarte fails to disclose each and every element of the claimed invention. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 USC §102(b) is respectfully requested.

For all the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 10 & 19 patentably define over the teachings of Richarte and are, therefore, allowable.

As claims 2, 5-6 & 28-30 depend on amended claim 1, claims 11, 14-15 & 31-33 depend on amended claim 10 and claims 20, 27 & 34-36 depend on amended claim 19, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2, 5-6, 11, 14-15, 20, 27 & 28-36 are allowable as well. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-2, 5-6, 10-11, 14-15, 19-20, 27-36.

DOCKET NO.: MSFT-2568/307781.01
Application No.: 10/750,297
Office Action Dated: September 28, 2007

**PATENT
REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO
37 CFR § 1.116**

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 26, 2007

/Joseph R. Condo/
Joseph R. Condo
Registration No. 42,431

Woodcock Washburn LLP
Cira Centre
2929 Arch Street, 12th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19104-2891
Telephone: (215) 568-3100
Facsimile: (215) 568-3439